

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 XMB-04 INR-07 /028 W

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R 191625Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1918

UNCLAS ALGIERS 0461

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, AG

SUBJ: COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES IN ALGERIA

REF: ALGIERS 0250, FEB. 5, 1974.

DURING FEBRUARY 18 COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF
STATE FOR TRANSPORT RABAH BITAT HE MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS OF
INTEREST REGARDING COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITIES HERE.

A. AIRCRAFT - NO DECISION TAKEN YET ON ACQUISITION
WIDE BODIED PLANES AIRBUS, BOEING 747, DC-10 OR
LOCKHEED TRISTAR. BITAT SAID LOCKHEED OFFERING ITS OWN CREDIT
PACKAGE WHICH ALGERIANS FOUND LESS ATTRACTIVE THAN
EX-IM FINANCING.

B. RAILROADS - ALGERIANS PLANNING EXPANSION AND
IMPROVEMENT OF RAILWAY SYSTEM COSTING MORE THAN
BILLION DOLLARS. THERE WILL BE NUMBER POSSIBILITIES
FOR AMERICAN FIRMS TO BID ON CONTRACTS AND SALES OF
EQUIPMENT.

C. LNG TANKERS - BITAT EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT
APPARENT LACK OF INTEREST ON PART AMERICAN SHIP-
BUILDERS IN CONSTRUCTING LNG TANKERS FOR
ALGERIANS. RECENT CALL FOR BIDS HAD ELICITED
SINGLE RESPONSE FROM ONE AMERICAN FIRM, WHICH HAD
MERELY SAID ALGERIANS COULD GET IN TOUCH WITH ITS
REPRESENTATIVE, WHO WOULD BE PASSING THROUGH PARIS.
ALGERIANS HAD NOT DONE SO, OF COURSE, BECAUSE
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COMPANY EVIDENTLY NOT SERIOUSLY INTERESTED.

COMMENT: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION
ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR LNG TANKERS WITH CNAN, SEE
ALGIERS 0250.PARKER

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Message Attributes

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